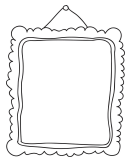


KINGDOM COME #1 – THE GREAT COMMANDMENT
Sermon by Tom Fenske January 22, 2017

Luke 10:25-28

We are most alive when we love _____ and love _____.

1. F _____



Jewish framework = l____, t____, c____, k____, T_____

Jesus' framework = the Kingdom of God: an ancient, holy, provocative, beautiful picture of what it looks like when God is in charge and dwells among His people.

[and is all based on _____!]

2. L _____



3. D _____ (Gk: D _____ = _____)

Luke 10:1-12



4. N _____

Luke 10:29-37



Jesus' **2-pronged response** to *expert's* answer: _____ and _____

How do we love God with _____:

- _____:
- _____:
- _____:
- _____:

What currently takes the place of God in your life? What values rule your life?

What would it look like if you loved God the way you love your family/spouse/kids/hobby/job?

How would seeing others as having the same struggles as you reframe their value?

Who is God asking you to love this week?

The Kingdom of God (in Luke)

Jesus speaks of the Kingdom of God 27 times in the gospel of Luke. Some of them are listed below with one word missing. How many blanks can you fill in? Feel free to look up the references (from NLT).

Luke 4:43

But he replied, "I must _____ the Good News of the Kingdom of God"

Luke 6:20

"God blesses you who are _____, for the Kingdom of God is yours."

Luke 8:10

"You are permitted to understand the _____ of the Kingdom of God."

Luke 9:2

Then he sent them out to tell _____ about the Kingdom of God and to heal the sick.

Luke 9:27

"some standing here right now will not _____ before they see the Kingdom of God."

Luke 9:62

"Anyone who puts a hand to the _____ and then looks back is not fit for the Kingdom of God."

Luke 10:9

_____ the sick, and tell them, "The Kingdom of God is near you now."

Luke 11:20

"... the Kingdom of God has _____ among you."

Luke 12:31

"_____ the Kingdom of God above all else"

Luke 13:29

And people will come from all over the _____—from east and west, north and south—to take their places in the Kingdom of God.

Luke 17:20

"The Kingdom of God can't be detected by visible _____."

Luke 17:21

"For the Kingdom of God is already _____ you."

Luke 18:16

"For the Kingdom of God belongs to those who are like these _____."

Luke 18:24

"How hard it is for the _____ to enter the Kingdom of God!"

Luke 21:31

In the same way, when you see all these things taking place, you can know that the Kingdom of God is _____.

Luke 22:16

"For I tell you now that I won't eat this meal again until its _____ is fulfilled in the Kingdom of God."

Luke 22:18

"For I will not drink _____ again until the Kingdom of God has come."

KINGDOM COME #1 – THE GREAT COMMANDMENT

Sermon by Tom Fenske *January 22, 2017*

Luke 10:25-28

One day an expert in religious law stood up to test Jesus by asking him this question: “Teacher, what should I do to inherit eternal life?”

Jesus replied, “What does the law of Moses say? How do you read it?”

The man answered, “‘You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your strength, and all your mind.’ And, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’”

“Right!” Jesus told him. “Do this and you will live!”

We are most alive when we love God and love others.

1. Frames

Jewish framework = law, temple, circumcision, kosher, Torah

Jesus’ framework = the Kingdom of God: an ancient, holy, provocative, beautiful picture of what it looks like when God is in charge and dwells among His people.

[and is all based on LOVE!]

2. Lists

Matthew 6:9-10

Pray like this: Our Father in heaven, may your name be kept holy. May your Kingdom come soon. May your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

3. **Dynamite** (Gk: Dynamis=power)

Luke 10:1-12

The Lord now chose seventy-two other disciples and sent them ahead in pairs to all the towns and places he planned to visit. These were his instructions to them: “The harvest is great, but the workers are few. So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields. Now go, and remember that I am sending you out as lambs among wolves. Don’t take any money with you, nor a traveler’s bag, nor an extra pair of sandals. And don’t stop to greet anyone on the road.

“Whenever you enter someone’s home, first say, ‘May God’s peace be on this house.’ If those who live there are peaceful, the blessing will stand; if they are not, the blessing will return to you. Don’t move around from home to home. Stay in one place, eating and drinking what they provide. Don’t hesitate to accept hospitality, because those who work deserve their pay.

“If you enter a town and it welcomes you, eat whatever is set before you. Heal the sick, and tell them, ‘The Kingdom of God is near you now.’ But if a town refuses to welcome you, go out into its streets and say, ‘We wipe even the dust of your town from our feet to show that we have abandoned

you to your fate. And know this—the Kingdom of God is near!’ I assure you, even wicked Sodom will be better off than such a town on judgment day.

4. **Neighbours**

Luke 10:29-37

The man wanted to justify his actions, so he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”

Jesus replied with a story: “A Jewish man was traveling from Jerusalem down to Jericho, and he was attacked by bandits. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him up, and left him half dead beside the road.

“By chance a priest came along. But when he saw the man lying there, he crossed to the other side of the road and passed him by. A Temple assistant walked over and looked at him lying there, but he also passed by on the other side.

“Then a despised Samaritan came along, and when he saw the man, he felt compassion for him. Going over to him, the Samaritan soothed his wounds with olive oil and wine and bandaged them. Then he put the man on his own donkey and took him to an inn, where he took care of him. The next day he handed the innkeeper two silver coins, telling him, ‘Take care of this man. If his bill runs higher than this, I’ll pay you the next time I’m here.’

“Now which of these three would you say was a neighbor to the man who was attacked by bandits?” Jesus asked.

The man replied, “The one who showed him mercy.”

Then Jesus said, “Yes, now go and do the same.”

Jesus’ **2-pronged response** to *expert’s* answer: right and go do this

How do we love God with heart, soul, mind, and strength

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Jesus speaks of the Kingdom of God 27 times in the gospel of Luke. Some of them are listed below with one word missing. How many blanks can you fill in? Feel free to look up the references (from NLT).

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Then he sent them out to tell everyone about the Kingdom of God and to heal the sick.

Luke 9:27

"some standing here right now will not die before they see the Kingdom of God."

Luke 9:62

"Anyone who puts a hand to the plow and then looks back is not fit for the Kingdom of God."

Luke 10:9

Heal the sick, and tell them, "The Kingdom of God is near you now."

Luke 11:20

"... the Kingdom of God has arrived among you."

Luke 12:31

Seek the Kingdom of God above all else"

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And people will come from all over the world, from east and west, north and south—to take their places in the Kingdom of God.

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"For the Kingdom of God belongs to those who are like these children."

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"How hard it is for the rich to enter the Kingdom of God!"

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In the same way, when you see all these things taking place, you can know that the Kingdom of God is near."

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"For I tell you now that I won't eat this meal again until its meaning is fulfilled in the Kingdom of God."

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"For I will not drink wine again until the Kingdom of God has come."

KINGDOM COME #1 – THE GREAT COMMANDMENT

Sermon by Tom Fenske

January 22, 2017

Icebreaker/Introduction

The 'Kingdom of God (in Luke)' activity flows out of Tom's comment about how the Kingdom of God is central to Jesus message and teaching. It is mentioned often in the Gospels and I've included 17 scripture references found in Luke. Encourage participants to try to figure out the words for each blank on their own first and then feel free to use a Bible to fill in the ones they couldn't get (note: these quotes are from the New Living Translations, so answers may vary depending on the version they use). Take up together.

Ask if there was anything from this week's message that stood out – either a point that was made which really resonated with them, or perhaps a question or difficulty that came up for them.

Read [Luke 10:25-28](#). In what ways did Tom's teaching on this passage help you see this passage differently?

Tom said that Jesus key message about the kingdom of God is surprisingly often lost or not considered. Spend time thinking about Jesus message. How would you explain Jesus to a sincere seeker in 4-5 minutes? Do the traditional ways or words (sin, fall, judgement, cross, holiness, hell) still have meaning or impact to modern listeners?

We are most alive when we love God and love others. Is it easier to love God or to love people?

1. FRAMES

Jewish framework = law, temple, circumcision, kosher, Torah

Jesus' framework = the Kingdom of God: an ancient, holy, provocative, beautiful picture of what it looks like when God is in charge and dwells among His people. **[and is all based on LOVE!]**

Tom said that we usually inherit stories (or our framework) from culture, family or friends. Who has influenced your framework in your life? Has your framework changed over time?

What were some elements/beliefs central to the framework you grew up with? (eg. hard work, going to church, importance of family)

Tom reminded us about the cycles of slavery/oppression and freedom that Israel experienced over and over again, and how we often go through the same. What are some issues that people (or you specifically) deal with continually? (eg. dieting, exercise, devotional life, anger) Have you experienced freedom?

Tom emphasized that the kingdom of God is for here and now, not in the future (ie. heaven). Is that a new thought to you? How do the opening words of the Lord's Prayer ([Matthew 6:9-10](#)) support this idea?

How was Jesus affirmation of the expert's response actually a reframing of God's kingdom? [Jesus was trying to show that the kingdom of God is much bigger – it is everything, where God is moving in the world. And it is all based on LOVE (not 600 rules)]

2. LISTS

Do you like lists? How do you utilize them in your life?

Tom said that lists can easily become obligations or expectations (often unwritten). What are some expectations that you have had to live with? Where did they come from?

Tom pointed out that the list for Jesus' kingdom only had 2 things on it (love God and love others). Do you think that seems too simple? (ie. aren't there a lot of things involved in each of these 2 things?)

3. DYNAMITE (Gk: Dynamis=power)

Focuses on [Luke 10:1-12](#), [Luke 24:49](#), [Acts 1:8](#) (*dynamis* is translated as 'miracles' in Lk. 10:13, as 'power' in Lk. 24:49 and Acts 1:8)

Can you give an example from your life when you feel God acted with 'power'? Has Jesus ever 'blown up' anything in your life? Is there something He needs to do that with now?

Tom said that in order to live a life of meaning and purpose then we should love God and love others, that that is when we will feel most alive. Would you agree with this statement? Have you found it to be true in your own life?

Tom asserted that loving God is impossible if you don't love other people. How are loving God and loving people inter-related?

4. NEIGHBOURS

Focuses on [Luke 10:29-37](#)

Tom stated that love is about more than just showing up (out of obligation, for example) but is the devoting of the whole of your being toward someone else. In what situations do people (or you) have a tendency to just 'show up'?

When asking 'who is my neighbor?' Tom said that this expert in the law was looking for how to do the 'bare minimum' (you don't mean I have to love everybody, do you?). In what areas or relationships are you guilty of looking to do the bare minimum? What are some specific ways in which you can live out the 'posture of love' that is reflected in this passage?

Read the Good Samaritan story in [Luke 10:29-37](#). Who has acted as a good Samaritan to you? When have you been like the good Samaritan to others?

What are some practical ways that we can love God with all of our:

Heart: (suggestion – worship) Soul: (suggestion – prayer) Mind: (suggestion – read) Strength: (suggestion – serve)

Questions from Tom:

What currently takes the place of God in your life? What values rule your life?

What would it look like if you loved God the way you love your family/spouse/kids/hobby/job?

How would seeing others as having the same struggles as you reframe their value?

Who is God asking you to love this week?